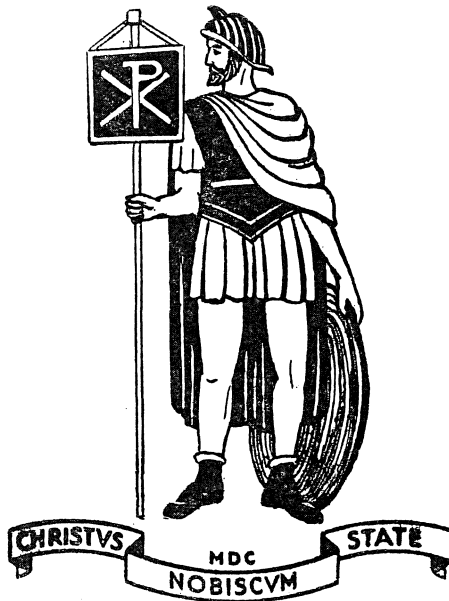


The

Alcester Grammar



School Record

December, 1959



Alcester Grammar School Record

No. 124

DECEMBER, 1959

EDITORS : MR. D. E. OLDHAM AND MISS M. F. BAIRD

COMMITTEE

Lancaster, Jeays, Canning, Alison Jones, Gillian Clews, Sheila Sheppard, Judith Tallis.

EDITORIAL

This term the Committee has been very busy collecting and arranging material for this issue, and, for the first time, members have prepared the Editorial and are assisting with the distribution.

It is pleasing to note the gradual reappearance and introduction of clubs and societies, such as Art, Music, Chess, Badminton and Gymnastics. This section of the *Record* is being enlarged to give a fuller picture of School life. House Notes are also included this term.

We hope that both present members of the School and Old Scholars will continue to ply the Editors with their contributions, as they have done in the past and that each form will strive to produce items worthy of selection.

A. W. J. and D. A. L.

The Editors acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following magazines :—The Arrow, Bromsgrove High School Magazine, The Campdonian, The Henrician, The Stratfordian and The Theocsbrian.

THE STAFF

HEADMASTER : Mr. E. Davison, M.Sc.

DEPUTY HEAD : Miss A. L. Webley, B.A.

SENIOR MASTER : Mr. W. Thornton, M.Sc.

Mr. J. W. Bell, B.Sc.

Mr. J. Benton, B.A.

Mr. R. Clyndes, B.Sc. (Econ.)

Mr. E. W. Hadwen, B.Sc.

Mr. T. E. Lacey, B.A.

Mr. D. E. Oldham, M.A.

Mr. J. R. Packham, B.Sc.

Mr. F. W. Petherbridge, B.A.

Mr. H. Silva.

Miss M. F. Baird, M.A.

Miss S. C. Beauchamp, A.B.S.M.

Miss P. A. Daykin, P.E. Diploma

Miss H. M. Hewitt, B.A.

Miss K. G. Morris, B.A.

Mrs. J. Neale, D.S. Diploma

Miss K. M. Simm, A.T.D.

Mrs. I. Willis.

SCHOOL REGISTER

VALETE

Young, E. C. (IIA).
 Baker, H. (IIA).
 Brookman, P. (IB).
 C. J. Edwards (IIA).
 *Bailey, M. (VI).
 *Dale, P. E. (VI).
 *Herbert, G. J. (VI).
 *Jones, D. K. (VI).
 Spalding, C. D. (VI).
 *Waring, D. (VI).
 *Wilshaw, D. W. (VI).
 *A. M. Bird (VI).
 D. I. Day (VI).
 *S. R. Pooton (VI).
 *J. Weaver (VI).
 Cooper, M. R. (VA).
 Hancox, D. R. (VA).
 Hemming, M. J. (VA).

Hemming, P. J. (VA).
 Lewis, A. E. (VA).
 Spooner, N. (VA).
 Wheeler, M. J. (VA).
 C. A. Baylis (VA).
 S. M. Deakin (VA).
 J. Houston (VA).
 M. A. Read (VA).
 M. J. Wilks (VA).
 Andrews, M. J. (VB).
 Chambers, D. L. (VB).
 Edwards, M. J. W. (VB).
 Curnock, M. J. (VB).
 Hinks, J. G. (VB).
 Lane, C. G. (VB).
 Latham, P. W. (VB).
 Lovell, P. J. (VB).
 Wainwright, P. C. (VB).
 M. J. Baies (VB).

D. M. Dyson (VB).
 D. J. Hall (VB).
 D. M. Lees (VB).
 R. A. Mills (VB).
 J. D. Prosser (VB).
 V. M. Ross (VB).
 E. E. Seeney (VB).
 P. K. Wilkes (VB).
 Brook, D. (IVB).
 J. Cartmale (IIIA).
 P. Taylor ((IIB).
 Field, M. L. (IB).
 E. A. Isjn (VA).
 V. A. Townley (IIA).
 G. Draycott (VI).
 Dobson, B. (VB).
 Dobson, R. F. (IB).

* Prefect

SALVETE

Blockley, R. J. (VI).
 G. MacAleese (VA).
 P. Armstrong (IIA).
 D. Chittock (IIB).
 A. Nokes (IB).
 Atche on, R. (IA).
 Aulton, B. (IA).
 Bakewell, R. C. (IA).
 Brookes, R. J. (IA).
 Cooper, C. (IA).
 Cooper, D. R. (IA).
 Cotter, A. W. (IA).
 Handy, E. (IA).
 Harper, R. M. (IA).
 Ross, B. (IA).
 Vondrak, P. M. (IA).
 Williams, D. J. (IA).
 M. A. Bradshaw (IA).
 A. P. Burman (IA).
 C. J. Burn (IA).
 R. J. Clifford (IA).
 P. A. Cockburn (IA).

J. A. Collett (IA).
 G. L. Cook (IA).
 S. Fitzmaurice (IA).
 L. M. Gait (IA).
 R. M. Harrison (IA).
 P. H. Jackson (IA).
 P. E. Mahoney (IA).
 C. R. Strasser (IA).
 J. M. Thomas (IA).
 M. Watton (IA).
 B. D. Whateley (IA).
 C. E. Whateley (IA).
 H. F. Whitehead (IA).
 E. M. Wright (IA).
 Barlow, J. T. (IB).
 Birch, J. P. (IB).
 Findlay, D. M. (IB).
 Ford, G. C. (IB).
 Green, A. J. (IB).
 Griffin, M. D. (IB).
 Hancock, P. G. (IB).
 Horsley, R. J. (IB).

Jones, T. R. (IB).
 McGuire, P. W. (IB).
 Moulson, D. S. (IB).
 Righton, S. G. (IB).
 Thornton, A. J. (IB).
 Wilkes, G. J. (IB).
 Wyatt, J. E. (IB).
 J. A. Armsden (IB).
 W. M. Bennett (IB).
 J. Chapman (IB).
 M. J. Hall (IB).
 S. E. Hall (IB).
 L. P. Hands (IB).
 J. E. Harrison (IB).
 S. M. Howard (IB).
 J. A. Jacque (IB).
 J. Y. LeResche (IB).
 J. L. Ostroumoff (IB).
 W. A. Padbury (IB).
 C. M. Reade (IB).
 A. Wiltshire (IB).

There have been 341 pupils on the roll this term.

NOTES AND NEWS

On July 9th, Mr. Petherbridge accompanied the Sixth Form on an excursion to the south-west fringe of the Birmingham plateau, including the Lickey and the Clent Hills.

* * * *

On July 17th a party of boys and girls accompanied by members of the Staff, explored the Mendips, Cheddar Gorge, Wookey Hole and Longleat House.

* * * *

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Benton on the birth of their daughter, Amanda Jane, on July 17th.

* * * *

On Thursday, July 23rd, the Staff and the Sixth Form enjoyed a social evening. The tennis teams were: Staff: Mr. Petherbridge and

Mrs. Davison, Mr. Davison and Mrs. Willis, Mr. Packham and Miss Morris, Mr. Oldham and Miss Daykin, Mr. Lacey and Miss Hewitt. Sixth Form: Wilshaw and R. Patterson, Dale and G. Clews, Sheppard and B. Jones, Bailey and A. Bird, Jones and J. Holt. The Sixth Form won again this year by 133 games to 92.

* * * *

The Tennis Gold Cup was won last term by Josephine Holt, who beat Christine Baylis 6-4, 12-14, 6-4, in a match which lasted almost two hours.

* * * *

Congratulations again to P. E. Dale, who gained the highest mark obtainable in three of his mathematics papers in the Advanced Level G.C.E. and was awarded a State Scholarship. Congratulations also to M. Bailey, who was awarded an open scholarship in Mathematics to Birmingham University. Anita Bird has gone into residence at King's College, Durham, with a Warwickshire County University Award. Josephine Holt is at Shenstone Training College.

* * * *

Welcome to Mr. R. Clyndes from the Joseph Leckie School, Walsall, to teach Mathematics in succession to Miss Evans. We also welcome the new Games and P.T. Master, Mr. H. Silva, from the East Sheen Grammar School.

* * * *

The Prefects this year are the following:—Head boy: Cotter. Deputy Head Boy: Lancaster. Prefects: Beale, Bennett G., Bryan, Canning, Cleeton, Jeays, Russell, Sheppard. Sub-prefects: Bennett J., Bowie, Dav, Hemming M., Thornton, Turner. Head Girl: E. Such. Prefects: J. Barnsdale, G. Clews, A. Jones, B. Jones, S. Langston, A. Lloyd, E. Moore, R. Patterson, K. Renshaw, S. Sheppard, J. Tallis, J. Wilshaw.

* * * *

House Captains are:—*Brownies*: Bryan, Barbara Jones (games), Bennett J., Eileen Such (arts and crafts). *Jackals*: Cleeton, Jean Pirie (games). Jennifer Barnsdale (arts and crafts). *Tomtits*: Cotter, Rosemary Patterson (games), Bowie, Sylvia Langston (arts and crafts).

* * * *

House Vice-captains are:—*Brownies*: Russell, Gillian Clews (games), Ann Lloyd (arts and crafts). *Jackals*: Lancaster, Alison Jones (games), Janet Wilshaw (arts and crafts). *Tomtits*: Sheppard, Sheila Sheppard (games), Kathleen Renshaw (arts and crafts).

* * * *

On September 15th Miss Webley, Miss Hewitt, Miss Baird and nine Sixth Form members attended the Schools' evening illustrated lecture by

Sir Albert Richardson, P.P.R.A., on "Johnson's England," at the Midland Institute, Birmingham. This formed part of the Birmingham celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Samuel Johnson (1709-1784).

On October 15th a Sixth Form party went to the Memorial Theatre to see Charles Laughton in "King Lear." Mr. Thornton was in charge of the party.

* * * *

On October 21st a group of Fifth and Sixth Form girls, accompanied by Mrs. Neale, visited the Ideal Homes Exhibition in Birmingham.

* * * *

A newly-formed Gymnastics Club meets after School on Mondays and has a keen membership.

* * * *

All boys and girls above the First Forms have been given the opportunity of going to Redditch swimming baths on Tuesday evenings with Miss Daykin and Mr. Silva, but numbers have had to be restricted to one coach load. Already some swimmers are hoping to gain their bronze medals.

* * * *

A newly-formed Rugby XV was defeated 39—0 by King Edward VI G.S., Stratford-on-Avon Second XV, but the team gained valuable experience in match play.

* * * *

Russell has organised a chess tournament this term and over thirty boys have joined a chess league. It is hoped to form a division for the girls.

* * * *

Barnardo boxes have been collected and members of the First Forms were shown films about Dr. Barnardo's Homes by Miss Philips.

* * * *

On Saturday, November 7th, a few pupils and members of the Staff attended the unveiling of the memorial picture to the late Peter Collins, the well-known racing driver. The ceremony, organised by Mr. Rutter, Headmaster of the Alcester Preparatory School, was held in the Greig Hall.

* * * *

The sale of poppies for Earl Haig's Fund again took place in the School. The total collected has not yet been announced.

* * * *

We understand that the School extensions may be started next year.

* * * *

The Autumn Term opened on Tuesday, September 8th, and closes on Friday, December 18th. Half Term was from Monday, October 26th, to Friday, October 30th.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

Oxford Local Examinations, 1959

General Certificate of Education

Advanced Level

Form Upper VI

- M. Bailey, *Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics (Distinction), Physics.*
 P. H. Cotter, *Chemistry.*
 P. E. Dale, *Pure Mathematics (Distinction), Applied Mathematics (Distinction), Physics.*
 G. J. Herbert, *English Literature, French, Geography.*
 D. K. Jones, *Geography (Distinction), Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics.*
 D. Waring, *Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics.*
 D. W. Wilshaw, *Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics.*
 Anita Bird, *English Literature, French, Biology.*
 Diane Day, *History, Geography.*
 Alison Jones, *English Literature, History.*
 Sallie Poolton, *English Literature, History.*
 Jennifer Weaver, *English Literature, Latin.*

Form Lower VI

- Gillian Clews, *English Literature.*
 Ann Lloyd, *Biology.*
 Rosemary Patterson, *English Literature.*

State Scholarship

P. E. Dale

Open Scholarship, Birmingham University

M. Bailey.

Warwickshire County University Awards

- M. Bailey, G. J. Herbert, D. W. Wilshaw, Anita Bird, Alison Jones,
 Jennifer Weaver.

Worcestershire County University Awards

P. E. Dale.

Ordinary Level

(e, English Language; E, English Literature; L, Latin; F, French; H, History; G, Geography; A, Art; R.K., Religious Knowledge; M, Mathematics; P, Physics; C, Chemistry; B, Biology; G.Sc., General Science; W, Woodwork; Co, Cookery; N, Needlework; Mu, Music.)

Form VI

J. A. Sheppard, Mu.	Josephine Holt, N.	Eileen Moore, N.
C. D. Spalding, e.	Alison Jones, F.	Sallie Poulton, F.
D. W. Wilshaw, P.	Barbara Jones, N.	Jennifer Weaver, F.
Diane Day, E.	Sylvia Langston, N.	

Form VA

G. Bennett, e, E, F, G, M, P, C. B.	Barbara Bullock, e, E, F, M, P, C, B.
D. J. Bryan, e, E, F, G, M, P, C. B.	Sandra Deakins, e, E, L, F, M, C, B.
R. J. Canning, e, E, F, G, M, P, C, B.	Geraldine Draycott, e, E, M, P, C, B.
M. C. Cooper, e, E, G, M, P, C.	Jennifer Houston, e, E, H, A.
R. E. Day, e, E, F, G, M, C.	Elizabeth Ison, e, E, F, M.
D. R. Hancox, H, G, M.	Jean Pirie, e, E, L, F, C, B.
M. Hemming, e, E, F, G, M, P, C, B.	Jacqueline Ramsay, e, E, F, M, B.
M. J. Hemming, e, E, F, M, C, B.	Margaret Reed, e, E, L, F, M, C, B.
P. J. Hemming, e, E, F, G, M, C, W.	Gillian Reading, e, E, F, H, M, G.Sc., Co.
A. E. Lewis, E, A, M, G.Sc.	Kathleen Renshaw, e, E, F, H, R, K. G. M, G.Sc.
N. Spooner, e, E, F, G, M, P, C, B.	Sheila Sheppard, e, E, H, G, A.
D. M. Thornton, e, E, F, G, M, P, C, B.	Judith Tallis, e, L, F, H, A, M, B.
M. J. Wheeler, e, E, M, P, B.	Maureen Wilks, E, F, A, M, C, B.
Christine Baylis, e, E, H, G, M, C, B.	Janet Wilshaw, e, E, F, M, P, C, B, Co.
Virginia Bell, E, M, C, Co.	Wendy Wright, M, G.Sc, Co.

Form VB

M. J. Andrews, A, G.Sc, W.	P. C. Wainwright, e, E, G.Sc.
J. Bennett, H, G, M, W.	Margaret Bates, E, H, A, B, Co.
D. C. Bowie, e, E, F, H, G, M, G.Sc.	Helen Booker, e, E, F, C, B, Co.
D. L. Chambers, E, H, G.Sc.	Dawn Dyson, E, H, G.Sc., M.
M. J. Curnock, E, F, H, G, A, M, B.	Daphne Hall, E, Co.
M. J. W. Edwards, G, M, P, C, W.	Margaret Lees, E, A, Co.
C. D. Handy, e, M.	Rosemarie Mills, E, H, A, M, Co.
J. G. Hinks, E, H, G.	Jacqueline Prosser, e, E, H, A, Co.
C. G. Lane, e, H, M, G.Sc, W.	Valerie Ross, e, E, H, G, A, Co.
P. J. Lovell, e.	Eileen Seeney, A.
G. E. Mertens, e, E.	Pamela Wilkes, E, F, H, M, G.Sc, Co.
A. W. Turner, A, M, G.Sc.	Ruth Wright, e, E, A, Co.

SPORTS DAY, 1959

This year our forty-sixth Sports Day was held on Wednesday, July 22nd. For the first time for many years, little or no fears were present among us with regard to the weather. Instead, with the sun shining, the entire programme of events was completed without interruptions, much to the delight of both competitors and spectators, of which there was a large number. The triumphant team this year was the Tomtits once again, only narrowly beating the Brownies with a majority of twenty-six points.

As usual, the annual display of Arts and crafts was on view to all in the gymnasium. The arrangement of the exhibits was presided over by Miss Webley and Miss Hewitt, and they must be commended for their excellent artistic abilities.

At the close of the sports events, the whole School formed up in the traditional way and sang its song. The cups, shields and medallions were presented by Mrs. W. H. Cox, and a most enjoyable afternoon was terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

D. A. L.

RESULTS

(B—Brownies, J—Jackals, T—Tomtits)

* Indicates a new record.

OVER FIFTEEN**Boys**

100 yards—1 Jones (T), 2 Bailey (T), 3 Sheppard (T), 4 Waring (J). Time: 10.8 secs.
 220 yards—1 Jones (T), 2 Sheppard (T), 3 Bailey (T), 4 Cotter (T). Time: 25.3 secs.
 440 yards—1 Jones (T), 2 Cotter (T), 3 Bailey (T), 4 Waring (J). Time: 58.2 secs.
 880 yards—1 Cotter (T), 2 Jones (T), 3 Chambers (J), 4 Sheppard (J). Time: 2 mins.
 20 secs.
 Mile—1 Cotter (T), 2 Wheeler (B), 3 Chambers (J), 4 Jones (T). Time: 5 mins.
 11 secs.
 Hurdles—1 Cotter (T), 2 Bailey (T), 3 Jones (T), 4 Hemming i (J).
 Throwing Discus—1 Cleeton (J), 2 Jones (T), 3 Beale (J), 4 Wheeler (B). Distance:
 141ft. 7in.*
 Putting the Shot—1 Cleeton (J), 2 Turner (J), 3 Beale (J), 4 Jones (T). Distance:
 40ft.*
 Long Jump—1 Jones (T), 2 Chambers (J), 3 Cleeton (J), 4 Beale (J). Distance:
 18ft. 4½ins.
 High Jump—1 Cleeton (J), 2 Beale (J), 3 Chambers (J), 4 Stanford (B). Height:
 4ft. 11ins.
 Throwing the Javelin—1 Jones (T), 2 Chambers (J), 3 Lovell i (B), 4 Sheppard (T).
 Distance: 143ft. 9ins.*
 Cross-country—1 Wheeler (B), 2 Cotter (T), 3 Chambers (J). Time: 27mins.
 0.8 secs.

GIRLS

100 yards—1 C. Foreman (B), 2 M. Pope (T), 3 B. Jones (B), 4 J. Pirie (J). Time:
 12.9 secs.
 220 yards—1 B. Jones (B), 2 M. Pope (T), 3 G. Draycott (B).
 Hurdles—1 B. Jones (B), 2 R. Wright (B), 3 G. Draycott (B).
 High Jump—1 J. Tallis (J), 2 R. Wright (B), 3 M. Pope (T), 4 G. Draycott (B).
 Height: 4ft. 1in.
 Throwing the Rounders Ball—1 M. Haydon (J), 2 M. Wilks (B), 3 R. Wright (B).
 Long Jump—1 M. Haydon (J), 2 M. Pope (T), 3 A. Jones (J), 4 B. Jones (B).
 Throwing the Javelin—1 J. Pirie (J).
 Throwing the Discus—1 J. Pirie (J), 2 B. Jones (B), 3 S. Ingram (B), 4 W. Wright
 (B).

THIRTEEN—FIFTEEN

Boys

100 yards—1 Wilkinson (T), 2 Stevenson (B), 3 Dobson (B), 4 Handy (B).
 220 yards—1 Wilkinson (T), 2 Lovell (J), 3 Beale (J), 4 Dobson (B). Time: 29.4 secs.
 440 yards—1 Wilkinson (T), 2 Dobson (B), 3 Mills (J), 4 Simcox (T).
 880 yards—1 Wilkinson (T), 2 Dobson (B), 3 Mills (J). Time: 2 mins. 34.6 secs.
 Hurdles—1 Wilkinson (T), 2 Dobson (B), 3 Handy (B).
 High Jump—1 Dobson (B), 2 Brand (T), 3 Burns (B). Height: 4ft. 2ins.
 Long Jump—1 Handy (B), 2 Wilkinson (T), 3 Devey (J), 4 Smith (B). Distance: 15ft. 4ins.
 Throwing the Javelin—1 Foster (B), 2 Simcox (T), 3 Lovell (J), 4 Tallis (B). Distance: 89ft. 5ins.
 Throwing the Discus—1 Lovell (J), 2 Morris (B), 3 Mills (J), 4 Foster (B). Distance: 88ft.
 Putting the Shot—1 Foster (B), 2 Simmonds (J), 3 Mills (J), 4 Nield (B). Distance 31ft. 5ins.*
 Cross-country—1 Taylor (B), 2 Wilkinson (T), 3 Nield (B). Time: 15 mins. 47 secs.

GIRLS

100 yards—1 L. Smith (B), 2 V. Ross (T), 3 K. Day (J), 4 S. Wall (J). Time: 13.2 secs.
 150 yards—1 L. Smith (B), 2 C. Jarret (T), 3 K. Day (J), 4 V. Ross (T). Time: 20.9 secs.
 High Jump—1 S. Millet (B), 2 J. Cartmale (T), 3 J. Craig (T), 4 R. Lord (J).
 Hurdles—1 L. Smith (B), 2 M. Bott (J), 3 D. Cooke (T). Time:
 Throwing the Discus—1 N. Crooke.

UNDER THIRTEEN

Boys

100 yards—1 Barley (B), 2 Oakes (T), 3 Greaves (T), 4 Price (T). Time: 12.5 secs.*
 220 yards—1 Barley (B), 2 Homer (B), 3 Oakes (T), 4 Greaves (T). Time: 30.2 secs.
 440 yards—1 Homer (B), 2 Barley (B), 3 Price (T), 4 Guise (T). Time: 69.3 secs.
 High Jump—1 Hemming (T), 2 Guise (T), 3 Greaves (T), 4 Ward (T). Height: 3ft. 11ins.
 Long Jump—1 Oakes (T), 2 Barley (B), 3 Homer (B), 4 Greaves (T). Distance: 14ft. 4ins.*
 Throwing the Cricket Ball—1 Greaves (T), 2 Round (T), 3 Guise (T), 4 Taylor (B). Distance: 177ft. 2ins.

GIRLS

100 yards—1 A. Couling (J), 2 V. Townley (J), 3 A. Busby (J), 4 A. MacAleese (J).
 150 yards—1 A. Couling (J), 2 V. Townley (J), 3 E. Jeffery (J), 4 M. O'Hara (J). Time: 21.5 secs.
 High Jump—1 A. Couling (J), 2 L. Bird.
 Long Jump—1 A. Couling (J), 2 J. Hatton (B), 3 L. Bird (B), 4 L. Morrison (J). Distance: 12ft. 7ins.
 Throwing the Rounders Ball—1 L. Morrison (J), 2 J. A. Price (T), 3 J. O. Price (T), 4 A. Busby (J). Distance: 123ft. 1ins.
 Junior Hurdles—1 L. Bird (B), 2 V. Townley (J), 3 M. Mahoney (B), 4 E. Jeffery (J). Time: 14.4 secs.

OTHER EVENTS

Relay (Boys) (24 x 110 yards)—1 Brownies, 2 Tomtits. Time: 5 mins. 49.45 secs.
 Relay (Upper School Boys) (4 x 110 yards)—1 Tomtits, 2 Brownies. Time: 50 secs.
 Relay (Lower School Boys) (4 x 110 yards)—1 Brownies, 2 Tomtits. Time: 55 secs.
 Relay (Upper School Girls) (4 x 110 yards)—1 Brownies, 2 Tomtits. Time: 58.3 secs.
 Relay (Lower School Girls) (4 x 110 yards)—1 Brownies, 2 Jackals. Time: 62.9 secs.
 Tug-of-War—1 Brownies, 2 Tomtits.

The following presentations were made:—

Victor Ludorum Cup—Jones (43 points).
Victrix Ludorum Cup—Barbara Jones (23 points).
Junior Victrix Ludorum Cup—Ann Couling (28 points).
Cross-country Cup (for winning side)—Brownies.
Cross-country Cup (for winner of senior event)—Wheeler.
Tennis Cup—Josephine Holt.
Games Shield—Brownies.
Boys' Sports Cup—Tomtits.
Bronze Medals—Chambers, Foster, Homer, Greaves, Oakes, Lola Bird, Vivienne Townley, Jean Pirie.
Silver Medals—Wheeler, Taylor, Cleeton, Cotter, Jones, Barley, Dobson, Wilkinson, Lorna Smith, Ann Couling, Barbara Jones, Margaret Pope.
Sports Shield—Tomtits (388 points). Brownies scored 362 points. Jackals scored 298 points.

CRICKET

Captain: Jones. *Vice-Captain:* Wilshaw. *Secretary:* Bailey.

As can be seen from the results, the School First XI did very much better in the second half of the season, winning two and drawing one of the five matches played. The two defeats, one by only ten runs and the other by a rather greater margin against a very strong Old Scholars' XI, were caused mainly by lack of practice due to examinations and the School Sports.

When the last cricket notes were compiled, we had been defeated four times out of six, but this was soon compensated for by a ten-wicket victory over Great Alne Second XI. This victory by a team containing only seven regular First XI members did much to restore morale, and this was shown by a one-wicket victory over Prince Henry's G.S., Evesham—their first defeat of the season.

The batting improved steadily during the term, as did the fielding, although the catching never reached a very high standard. The bowling power of the team increased from week to week, and by the end of the season there were eight capable bowlers in the side.

At the end of a very good season, I should like to thank, on behalf of the team, Mrs. Rutter for organising the catering, the members of the Staff, many of whom gave up their Saturday afternoons in order to umpire, and, last but not least, our faithful scorer, Peter Dale.

Colours were awarded to Jones and Chambers.

Matches played	Won	Drawn	Lost
11	3	2	6

RESULTS

Alcester 1st XI: *v.* Great Alne 2nd XI (away), won, 16 for 0 wickets—15; *v.* Evesham (away), won, 35 for 9—31; *v.* Worcester T.H.S. (away), lost, 65—75; *v.* Redditch C.H.S. (away), draw, 32 for 5—54 for 5 (declared); *v.* Old Scholars (home), lost, 53—109 for 6 (declared).

D. K. JONES.

TENNIS SUPPLEMENTARY RESULTS

A.G.S. 1st VI *v.* Stourbridge County High School, won, 5 matches—4.

Tennis colours were awarded to Barbara Jones and Maureen Wilkes.

FOOTBALL

Captain: Gleeton.

Secretary: Beale.

This term we welcome Mr. Silva as our new Sports Master.

This season there has not been so much enthusiasm towards football owing to the introduction of rugby and hockey into the school. But, nevertheless, we have been able to hold practices on a Wednesday with a reasonable number of boys attending.

This year's team is stronger than last year's, but we have not met

with much success. The First XI have played four games to date and have only won one. Our best showing was against our great rivals, the Old Scholars, when we were narrowly beaten by 4 goals to 3.

The "Under-15" XI are so far unbeaten in their two games.

P. CLEETON.

RESULTS

A.G.S. Football 1st XI: *v.* Campden G.S. (away), lost 1-5; *v.* Old Scholars (home), lost 4-3; *v.* P.H.G.S., Evesham 1sts (away), lost 0-11; *v.* P.H.G.S., Evesham 2nds (home), won 3-0.

A.G.S. Football 2nd XI: *v.* Campden G.S. (away), won 7-1; *v.* P.H.G.S., Evesham (away), won 3-1; *v.* P.H.G.S., Evesham (home), drew 1-1.

HOCKEY

Captain: Barbara Jones.

Secretary: Gillian Clews.

Practices have been held regularly after school on Thursdays. Permanent teams have not yet been established as many of the promising players of the Lower School have each been included in the First XI, owing to the loss of many of last year's players. Because of these changes, team work has been made more difficult. Many players have also changed their positions on the field since last season.

Four of the First XI were selected to represent the School at the County Trials at Edgbaston on October 31st. They were Rosemary Patterson, Barbara Jones, Ruth Wright and Veronica Prokain. Unfortunately Veronica did not participate owing to a misunderstanding in travel arrangements. Ruth gained a place in the Second XI as centre-forward and Barbara was selected as a reserve. Their first match was against Staffordshire on November 28th at Bilston. Team coaching is given in Birmingham for all selected players, therefore the School First XI will lose two of its players on some Saturdays during the season.

BARBARA JONES.

The First XI has been represented by: K. Hartwell, R. Patterson, G. Clews, S. Ingram, V. Prokain, M. Pope, M. Jordan, E. Gardner, R. Wright, B. Jones and G. Draycott; also M. Bott, C. Smith, J. Duxbury, D. Smith, H. Parker, S. Moore, P. Brookes and P. Jones.

The Second XI has been represented by: J. Wilkes, M. Bott, J. Duxbury, M. Ring, D. Pugh, A. Bailey, R. Lord, C. Oram, L. Smith, H. Parker, D. Smith, P. Jones, S. Cooke, E. Gardner, K. Day, S. Moore, P. Ison, C. Smith, I. Jones, P. Brookes and L. Morrison.

RESULTS

A.G.S. 1st XI: *v.* Solihull High School (away), lost, 4-5; *v.* Bromsgrove High School (away), won, 2-1; *v.* Stourbridge High School (home), lost, 1-5; *v.* Stratford Grammar School (home), drew, 2-2; *v.* Leamington College (home), drew, 2-2.

A.G.S. 2nd XI: *v.* Solihull High School (away), lost, 0-5; *v.* Bromsgrove High School (away), lost, 1-6; *v.* Stourbridge High School (home), lost 2-3; *v.* Stratford Grammar School (home), won, 3-2.

NETBALL*Captain:* J. Pirie.

The netball teams have not yet been very active this term. The only match which has been played was an under-15 game against Leamington College, which was lost by a large margin of goals, probably through lack of practice preceding the match. However, we hope for better luck in the future.

J. P.

RESULT

A.G.S. v. Leamington College, lost, 4-25.

RUGBY*Captain:* Cleeton.*Secretary:* Beale.

At the beginning of this term rugby was introduced to the School, under the supervision of Mr. Silva, our new Sports Master.

There is great keenness among many boys, especially the younger ones. Regular practices have been held after school, but there have not yet been enough players for two full teams.

Our first match was against King Edward VI G.S., Stratford, Second XV on November 14th, and we lost 39—0. No other matches have been arranged yet, but it is hoped that there will be a number in the future.

The team to play K.E.S., Stratford, was as follows: Cleeton, Shepard, Wilkinson, Beale, Taylor, Yeomans, Wyatt, Carlton, Cotter, Watson, Mertens, Budgen, Stevenson, Greaves and Homer.

P. CLEETON.

HOUSE NOTES**BROWNIES***Captains:* Bryan and Barbara Jones.

On Sports Day, which was held last term, the Brownies did well to come second to the Tomtits with three hundred and sixty-two points to three hundred and eighty-eight.

This comparative success was due to a team effort rather than to the performances of particular individuals, but some personal triumphs deserve mention. Dobson and Foster shone among the intermediate boys whilst Barley and Homer were the House's main representatives in the junior events. The girls of the House who helped more than most were B. Jones and C. Foreman, seniors, L. Smith and S. Millet, intermediate, and L. Bird, junior. We also won all the relays, except the senior boys and the Tug-of-War.

At the prizegiving, after the sports, Foster, Homer and L. Bird were presented with bronze medals, and Wheeler, Taylor, Barley, Dobson, B. Jones and L. Smith with silver medals. B. Jones won the Victrix Ludorum Cup and Wheeler the cup for the winner of the senior cross-country event. The Brownies also won the Games Shield, the girls having won all their matches, and the boys having won one and drawn one, and the cup for the winning House in the cross-country races. D. J. BRYAN.

JACKALS

Captains: Cleeton and Jean Pirie.

Last year the Jackals did not distinguish themselves at sports, but did a great deal better at "arts and crafts," and football.

Both teams of Jackals won senior and junior inter-house matches. In the cricket matches, however, we were beaten by both our rivals.

On Sports Day the Jackals collected three trophies. They were the Junior Victrix Ludorum, which was won by Ann Couling, the Arts and Crafts Cup, won by Helen Jackson who collected over 200 points, and the Arts and Crafts Shield. The following people received bronze medals for sports: Chambers, Vivienne Townley and Jean Pirie, and silver medals were awarded to Ann Couling and Cleeton.

The following boys have represented the School at football during this term: Ellis, Scott, Devey, Simmonds, Wyatt, Odell, Lovell, Turner, Beale and Cleeton.

During the coming year we hope to do better at sports as well as retaining our high standard at Arts and Crafts. P. W. CLEETON.

TOMTITS

* *Captains:* Cotter and Rosemary Patterson.

In the cricket season last year six Tomtits played for the School. In the House matches, the Tomtits drew with the Brownies and beat the Jackals in the senior games.

On Sports Day the Tomtits achieved many distinctions: Bronze medals gained by Greaves and Oakes, silver medals by Jones, Wilkinson and Cotter. The Victor Ludorum Cup was awarded to Jones, our captain, with 43 points, and the Sports Shield was awarded to our House with 386 points, 34 more than the next team.

Our prospects for the coming year are favourable. We have a bright new set of youngsters, and the seniors are still strong. Our skill at games could improve, and our mastery over track events is, we hope, going to show itself again next Sports Day. P. H. COTTER.

ART SOCIETY

A new and larger committee has been formed for the society. This consists of one representative from each form.

The activities so far organised have been lino-cutting and egg tempera painting. Meetings have been held on Monday evenings, and during first and second dinner on Tuesdays and Wednesdays respectively.

Because of the cost of materials, members have been asked to pay for those they use. Helen Jackson has been elected treasurer, and she collects the payments for materials.

A visit to the Birmingham College of Art's exhibition is being arranged. Later in the year, members hope to visit Warwick Castle, mainly to see the pictures there.

The society is always ready to welcome new members, and notices about its activities can be seen on the noticeboard by the stairs.

ALISON JONES (Secretary).

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

Choir practices have been held regularly during Thursday dinner hours. We are very glad to see several boys among the new faces this term. These boys have helped greatly in learning descants for several hymns for morning assemblies. Now that Christmas approaches rapidly we are using our practices for learning music for the usual end of term carol service. During the term we have learnt one or two choruses from a new operetta, which we hope to put on sometime next year.

ROSEMARY PATTERSON.

BADMINTON CLUB

Pupils of all ages have enjoyed practising Badminton during the lunch hour and after school this term. A few matches have been arranged, but the results do not give a true picture of the quality of the School team as many of the matches were hard fought, game by game.

The players have included Helen Parker, Mr. Petherbridge, Helen Booker, Cotter, Wendy Wright, Mr. Silva, Virginia Bell, Karen Day, Cleeton, Jacqueline Ramsay and Ruth Wright.

Results to date are :

A.G.S. : *v.* Feckenham B.C., lost, 9-0; *v.* Royal Enfield B.C., lost, 5-4; *v.* Lodge Farm School, lost, 8-1; *v.* Long Marston B.C., lost, 12-4.

We have another match versus Bidford B.C. on December 19th.

P. H. C.

THE SIXTH FORM NOTES

Divided we stand; for the first time, to my knowledge, the Sixth Form has been split into two separate and independent groups. This year, the Sixth is considerably larger than ever before, and it would be almost impossible to cram everyone into one room. Consequently, the Lower Sixth has a room to itself. Despite this, many friendships have been formed between people in different groups.

Six new prefects have been created, bringing the total strength up to ten; for the first time there are a number of sub-prefects.

In the Upper Sixth, people are beginning to think about the forthcoming Advanced Level Examinations; one girl informs me that she has already started to revise for the mock exam. next term.

Although people are occasionally heard to complain that they are set an excessive amount of work, life has proceeded in a fairly quiet way. Early in the term, a party of sixth-formers visited the Stratford Memorial Theatre in order to see Charles Laughton's performance of "King Lear." The play was enjoyed by everyone, and it provided a pleasant break in the routine of the time-table. We would all like to thank Miss Webley and Mr. Thornton for making the trip possible.

The boys in the Sixth have been allowed to play rugby and hockey for the first time, and many have found these to be enjoyable games.

More than one sixth-former has found that the making of puns affords an outlet for his wit, and, in this way, much entertainment has been caused. It is to be hoped that the form will remain light-hearted, in spite of the great deal of work that has to be done before the summer.

T. M. JEAYS (U. VI Sc.)

OLLA PODRIDA

The band music consisted of drums, trumpets and symbols, states L.B.

* * * *

S.B. believes that the little monacles in the iron move rapidly backwards and forwards.

* * * *

Invert the other jar upwards, instructs M.R., and invert the two jars on top of each other.

* * * *

It is said that once Raleigh saw a muddy poodle, so he put down his jacket for the Queen to walk over it.—B.D.

* * * *

Before Bunyan was a religious man, he used to swear and play the church bells.—P.B.

* * * *

Clarendon's "History of the Rebellion" is a valuable work, having the advantage of being written by one who was alive—N.S.

* * * *

C.S. tells us that farinaceous foods such as macaroni are useful when cooking vegetarians.

* * * *

After digestion, writes J.T., the food is now ready for assumption.

* * * *

Rebecca heard Esau swearing, so she sent Esau away, according to M.H.

* * * *

R.G. informs us that modern cars have hydrochloric brakes.

* * * *

Lady Stanhope wore a white dress which resembled the surplus of an ecclesiastic.—I.J.

* * * *

An English man-of-war joined Kinglake and Lady Hestor, and all three sat smoking and talking.—Anon.

VISIT TO THE IDEAL HOMES EXHIBITION

On October 21st, a party of Fifth and Sixth Form girls went by coach to Birmingham to visit the Ideal Homes Exhibition, held annually at the Bingley Hall.

Our primary aim was to gain as much knowledge as possible about kitchens and their equipment, but in addition, we all enjoyed looking at the furniture, various gadgets and numerous food stalls. The "lean and hungry" look of some of our party seemed to discourage many of the demonstrators who withdrew their free samples as our red berets advanced towards them.

Some of the Sixth Form found time to visit the mannequin parade, and came away full of wonderful ideas, but feeling more penniless than ever.

We left to find the coach at 4 p.m. and I am sure that after their two hours' wandering, many weary feet were glad of the seat on the homeward journey.

An enjoyable and, we hope, beneficial afternoon was spent by everyone.

J. N.

IMPRESSIONS OF A.G.S.

Chers amis,

Je dois d'abord vous remercier de la faveur que vous me faites en me réservant une place dans votre journal.

Ayant eu le plaisir de passer quelques jours au cœur d'une école anglaise, c'est pour moi une joie de vous faire part de mes réflexions.

La journée scolaire des écoliers anglais me semble beaucoup plus enviable que celle des français. Chez nous chaque cours dure une heure et, chaque jour, les élèves quittent la classe entre 6 heures et 6 heures et demie de l'après-midi; de plus, une fois chez eux, les devoirs du soir leur demandent encore plusieurs heures de travail. Aussi, je fus très surprise de voir qu'en Angleterre la classe se terminait à 3 heures et demie et que les professeurs donnaient si peu de devoirs.

Ce qui m'a le plus étonnée encore c'est de constater la grande partie consacrée dans l'emploi du temps aux jeux et aux sports. J'ai l'impression que chez vous le développement physique est aussi important que le développement intellectuel.

Ce que j'apprécie beaucoup est l'uniforme de classe obligatoire. J'ai aussi été frappée par l'étrange discipline: des élèves chargés de surveiller leurs camarades! et, de plus, ces "prefects" ont pouvoir de punir!! Ce qui me paraît encore le plus dur est le droit donné au Directeur de battre les élèves—quel règlement barbare!

La façon étrange dont réagit l'écolier anglais vis à vis du "self-control" m'a stupéfiée. L'élève français qui pleure en classe parce qu'il a obtenu une mauvaise note, ou parce qu'il se fait gronder sévèrement par le professeur, sera consolé et réconforté par ses camarades et non montré

du doigt par les autres. J'ai également été très surprise par la familiarité qui règne entre professeurs et élèves.

Je conclus qu'avec un tel régime à la fin de l'année scolaire les Anglais quittent la classe, les joues rebondies et roses, tandis que les Français sortent pâles et fatigués, squelettiques à peine les voit-on dans la rue.

Certainment ceci n'est qu'une petite exagération de l'expression de ma pensée !

ANNIE DELASALLE.

A DISADVANTAGE OF MODERN LIFE

In their eagerness for the new scientific developments and plans for easier living which this age has brought with it, people are beginning to disregard the beauty of the English countryside. In fact, by some people it is merely regarded as land to be developed. New housing estates are being built on the outskirts of cities and in some places completely new towns are being constructed. Thus town is encroaching on countryside.

Another thing which is ruining the countryside is the network of high tension cables. These pylons, although necessary, are ugly things and completely ruin a beautiful landscape.

Last summer I remember climbing Bredon Hill and looking at the view. Through the heat haze a beautiful and typically English sight met my eyes. Green and yellow fields, interspersed with villages of brown thatches, and grey spires, and joined by winding country lanes, stretched away mistily into the distance. The glistening River Avon, speckled with white sails, meandered its way between the villages, and as I stood there I remembered Housman's poem "In Summertime on Bredon." What would Housman think if he could see this scene next year, if he could see the ugly scar which by that time will have been embedded in this beautiful landscape? The new M2 Motorway is to run across here, taking with it the peace as well as the beauty of an English landscape.

Modern life has its advantages, but this is an inevitable disadvantage : after all, nothing can stop progress.

JUDITH TALLIS (VI).

AMIENS, AMIENS, ICI AMIENS

At last the day's journey was over. The train came to a halt at the station in Amiens, where a loud voice was heard above all the noise, "Amiens, Amiens ici Amiens, buffet gastronomique." We laughed with relief as we climbed off the train, relief because we had not been sure if it stopped in Amiens; we had simply climbed on to the Paris train and trusted to luck.

Amiens is a town on the River Somme in Northern France. During

the last war it was almost entirely destroyed, and today it is a clean, new, and very attractive town. The most startling piece of architecture is the Tour Perret, which is the tallest building in Europe and will eventually contain flats. Perhaps the most impressive sight is the sparkling new railway station. After the dirty old stations in London this is a great contrast. It, also, was rebuilt after the war.

But by far the most beautiful building is the famous cathedral, dating back to the Middle Ages. Outside, it has delicately carved stonework around all the walls. The three great arched entrances contain rows of miniature figures worked in stone. Inside, it has a lofty nave and beautiful stained glass. The choir stalls are exquisitely carved. Inside the cathedral a small angel has been carved out of a pillar. If you stare at it for a long time you can see a tear running down its right cheek!

Two other interesting local places of interest are "Les Hortillonages" and "Le marché sur l'eau." The first are gardens surrounded by water which are reached by boat; the second is a market held regularly to sell the produce of the gardens. The vegetables are taken by rowing boat from the gardens, and are sold from the boats which are drawn up by the banks of the Somme. I never actually saw this market because one has to get up at about four o'clock in the morning to see it!

SHEILA SHEPPARD (VI).

SOBRIQUETS

I know that I'm not adroit,
But my cognizance informs me
That to be such is beneficial,
So my poem may be
Alien, meticulous or undecipherable.

This is not a conciliatory effort.
Or contumelious to the cause;
But I wish my comrades,
Would not call me, because
I'm subsidiary in height,
A Homunculus, "Flump" or Mite!

JANE EBORALL (VB).

AN OLD MAN'S CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

It was Christmas Eve. Through the swiftly-falling snowflakes, an old man slowly trudged along the deserted road. As he neared the town, he saw the many lights and heard the hum of the traffic. He felt strangely excited, for he was going Christmas shopping! No one ever gave *him* presents or sent *him* Christmas cards, but, nevertheless, he had two good friends for whom he always bought something. He gazed in wonder at the brightly-lit shops, and secretly longed to know someone who would be shopping to buy him a present.

He rather timidly entered one of the large stores, and the colourful scene of confusion filled his old heart with joy. But the people, laden with parcels, jostled him this way and that way, until he was so tired that he

could hardly stand. He gazed anxiously around himself, looking for the counters he wanted. After several unsuccessful attempts, he finally purchased his gifts. It had taken him a whole year to save enough money to buy the presents, but he did not regret his extravagance for a moment.

The homeward journey seemed very long, and the snow fell more swiftly. The old man was almost exhausted, and his arms ached because of the parcels he was carrying. The biting cold penetrated through his thin clothes, but he continued on, strengthened by the thought that his faithful companions would be waiting for him. At last, after what seemed to him to be an age, he saw the flicker of the light in his cottage. Slowly he walked up the path, and even before he reached the door he was greeted by his friends

On Christmas Day, there was not a happier person in the whole world than the poor, old man. He sat near the fire and smoked his pipe. Curled up in his lap was his cat and, stretched out at his feet, a dog. The cat, wearing a new bow round her neck, was feeling rather sleepy after a special feast of sardines and cream. The dog was wearing a fine new collar and playing with a huge bone. The man watched them and occasionally spoke to them, for they seemed to understand him.

It was Christmas Day. The man was poor, old and forgotten by the world, but he was content, for he had his two faithful friends.

LINDA SAVAGE (VA).

MY FAVOURITE PASTIME

My favourite pastime is rowing. It is a wonderful, healthy sport in which every part of the body is exercised.

As I belong to the Stratford Boat Club, I am entitled to take out a boat at any time if there are not too many pleasure boats on the water. This and other rules are included in a little booklet obtained when one joins.

We have three types of boats which are all housed in the boat house. They are the sculling boat, the pair and the four. We have no eights, which would be similar to the boats Oxford and Cambridge use, for the simple reason that our boathouse is not large enough to house such a long boat. The sculling boat is used by one man with two small oars; the pair is for two men and a coxswain, the men with one oar each, and the four is for a cox and four men, each with one oar.

Little do the public realize, when they see a crew on the water, how much rowing entails. From the very beginning, when the boat is being lifted from its supports in the boathouse, the cox, who is usually a small boy with a sharp voice, is in strict charge of the boat. There is a proper way of launching a boat and of taking it out. But once the boat is under way, the stroke who rows on the right side of the boat, is the man the rest of the crew follow, but the cox gives the orders to him. There is a definite way of sitting properly, of putting the oar in the water and taking it out again and there is a definite way of going up the slide at the right

speed. (These boats have sliding seats so as to gain more force during the stroke.) These are just the outstanding points, but there are many, many more connected with each movement.

Apart from the stroke, the other members of the crew have to know what to do when the cox shouts an order. For example, the cox might shout, "Paddle on stroke side, back her down bow side." This order is used when the cox wishes to turn his boat round, and "back her down bowside," means that those rowing bow side must turn the oar round and row backwards.

In a race, at a regatta for example, a "start" is used at the beginning. This means that at the start, the rowers row a series of short, sharp strokes in order to get away quickly. Sometimes a half, half, three-quarter, full start is used: this means the men row two half strokes, then three-quarters of a stroke, and by this time they are travelling at a good speed so they carry on with the normal full stroke.

The annual subscription at the Boat Club is fifteen shillings, but I think it is well worth it for all the enjoyment there is to be obtained.

M. J. LOVELL (VA).

JOURNEY TO THE RIVIERA

I think that my recent holiday in Europe is something that I shall never forget. Even the long and arduous journey was far from boring.

I travelled with my parents and a family from London with whom we became firm friends. The journey from Victoria to Dover was soon over, and within two and a half hours of leaving London, we were staggering off the s.s. *Invicta*, a luxury channel steamer of the British Railways, looking as green as grass, and feeling a good deal worse.

The journey from Calais to Paris was not unlike a journey anywhere in England, and there was only one thing that really impressed me: that was the cemetery of Amiens. The sight of the countless graves of fallen British soldiers, and the impressive stone memorial, made me wonder, for a fleeting moment, if freedom was really worth it. A further three and a half hours' travel brought us to the glamorous tourist centre of Europe, although my brief glimpse of Paris was far from glamorous. The city reminded me more of London with the large stores missing, and the traffic multiplied by a thousand.

At the South Paris railway station, Gare de Lyons, we boarded the wrong train, and were left only four minutes to race from one platform to another and establish ourselves in our couchettes. It was almost an hour before we found our allotted compartment and at last settled down for the night.

St. Raphael, Lyons, Marseilles, and Toulouse passed by, brought only to my notice by the monotonous voice of the station-announcer, and the loud chatter of the porters. I am still convinced that we missed the best part of the journey during the night.

I awoke at six in the morning, nearly fell out of my extremely narrow and squeaky bunk, and discovered that we were speeding noiselessly

through the vineyards of Provence. We passed through Cannes, Nice, Monte Carlo and Menton with our eyes literally glued to the window, savouring to the full the soft shades of blue of the Mediterranean, and the luxuriant green and red of the vine clad valley and flanking hills. Monte Carlo did not seem very interesting from the train, but a further visit proved that the town really lived up to its reputation.

The frontier town of Ventimiglia was equally beautiful and fascinating, and our two hours there were all too short. However, with ever-growing anticipation and excitement we boarded an Italian train for the final lap of our forty-eight-hour journey, and we reached Allasio exactly on schedule. Allasio was a beautiful town, consisting of brand new hotels, walks lined with orange trees and towering palms, and quaint back-alleys, where all the shops were to be found.

The whole of the coastline in this district was flanked by gently contoured, yet impressive hills, many of which were tiered, and covered with carnations, just coming into bloom. There was hardly a bare patch of ground to be found on these hills, all the available space being taken up with peach, orange, olive or fig groves, or grapevines, or merely filled by sub-tropical trees.

We spent almost the entire week touring this enchanting world, where new surprises, and sources of beauty, await one round every corner. As the day of our departure grew nearer, we all knew that the homeward journey would appear dull and uninteresting after the wonderland of beauty to be found on the Riviera.

C. P. J. MILLS (VA).

THESE THINGS I LOVE

White snow which crackles when you walk
 Bleak moors, and birds who seem to talk
 Of lands unknown; and firesides warm.
 And burning coals. Trees which moan
 When winds blow keen.
 And dancing on the village green.
 The smell of bread, and after rain
 The earth, smelling fresh and clean again.
 New books and carpets thick with pile,
 And streams and rivers running wild
 By mossy banks where flowers grow.
 Blue smoke which curls into the air
 And disappears forever there.
 These things I love and many more.

GLENIS RAINSFORTH (IVB).

THESE THINGS I PRAISE

Too many people look at Alcester and think that it is an uninteresting place. How wrong they are! Only the fisherman actually realises how interesting a place it is, and many a fisherman does not appreciate it. I do.

When I venture to the river bank at a week-end, I feel like an explorer because there is always something new to be seen. As I walk across the fields I notice whether it is fine or cloudy, whether the birds are singing or not and how dry the air is, if the wind is blowing and, if so, in which direction.

Before starting to fish I walk along the bank. Then I see what I am looking for. In the branch of a willow tree is a kingfisher waiting to pounce on an unsuspecting fish. There he sits "pavilioned in splendour." A little further on and then I hear a rustling in the rushes; a duck, moorhen, dab-chick or rat I wonder, but I do not wait to see for I wish to see more of nature's beauty and to see all would take too long.

I go on walking and soon I come to the pool. I sit and wait and before long the otter shows itself. Then quick as a flash it dives for a moment, coming to the surface a few yards further on with a fish of four to eight ounces in its mouth; it is a dace. What a beautiful body, shining like silver in the sun! Suddenly, the otter dives. I listen, then hear the reason why: some swans are approaching, looking most important. Then I cross the bridge and beneath the brambles, in the fast stream, I see a swirl. After a few minutes there is another swirl, but this time I see it is made by a fish. I fix a bunch of gentles to my hook and cast. Twice I do this with no result; then my float disappears and my line tightens. I strike. After, say, ten minutes of fighting, the fish gives in, tired and nearly drowned. It is a trout, one of the most beautiful of fish, beautifully streamlined and with spots of all the rainbow colours. I wet my hands and slip it back into the river to grow bigger. Later in its life it will, I hope, give me a good meal. These things I praise.

R. GUILLAUME (IVB).

A SIAMESE TALE

Fo-Ming, he was an Emperor's cat.
 Fo-Ming, he was a prince.
 At night, Fo-Ming on the tiles did sing.
 And there did strut and mince.
 Fo-Ming was a fine and handsome cat.
 And admiring glances won
 From all the tabbies in the court.
 But he loved only one
 Fo-Ming loved only Ting-a-ling
 A very beautiful cat
 With her haughty nose in a right angle pose.
 At the Emperor's arm she sat.
 One night, under her window,
 Fo-Ming sang a song to the moon,
 And with feline grace, in a veil of lace.
 Ting-a-ling jumped down from her room.
 They ran away and were married, they say.
 By a Siamese preacher from Gie.
 But when they ran away, they had nowhere to stay.
 And so, they belong now to me.

JANICE SWAIN (IVB).

TWELVE DAYS ON A NORWEGIAN COASTAL STEAMER

The journey by a Nordenfieldske coastal steamer from Bergen to Kirkenes covers a distance of over 1,200 miles. About half of this journey lies within the Arctic Circle. The boat that I and my father and mother travelled on was named M.S. "Häkon Jarl." A coastal steamer leaves Bergen every day. These boats are very important in the life of the Norwegian people as in many places the boats are the only means of transport. In every port, young and old alike, in all sorts of weather, come out to meet the boat. They can recognise the boat by its siren.

We started from Bergen at night and travelled steadily north, night and day. On the third day we crossed the Arctic Circle and celebrated this with a party. We then crossed the "West Fiord" to the Lofoten Islands, where fishing is the chief industry. By the sixth day the steamer had reached the "North Cape," which is very barren and isolated. We then went as far as Kirkenes, by the Russian border, and from there we went on an overland drive on which we saw the Laplanders and their herds of reindeer and the primitive way in which some people still live.

We then returned by the same sea-route, excepting that the ports that we missed during the night going north, we saw in the daylight on the return. This trip was an unforgettable adventure for there are not many holidays of this sort. Even if the sea was rough, we all had fun.

JEANETTA WILKES (IV_A).

NORTH WALES

I climbed the rugged mountains.
And looked o'er spreading vales.
Amidst the cool of waterfalls,
How lovely was North Wales.

I wandered through the woodlands.
Saw rabbits' bobbing tails.
Picked violets in the hedgerows.
How lovely was North Wales.

I went there in the summer.
Watched boats with coloured sails.
The golden sand was dry and warm,
How lovely was North Wales.

I went there in the winter.
Midst snow and rain and gales,
The sea was wild and angry,
But how lovely was North Wales.

CHRISTINE JARRETT (IV_B).

HOME DECORATING

One day in the half-term holiday, my mother and I decided to decorate the pantry. To reach it one has to cross the garage.

First of all, we cleared the shelves. This was comparatively easy, but the trouble started when we had to find other places for the things. We found places for them and succeeded in cluttering up the garage, kitchen and lounge. This caused much annoyance to everyone. If they wanted to sit down they had to make sure they were not sitting on the eggs or in a blancmange. If mother wanted to do any cooking she had first to empty the oven of butter, cheese or plates. Daddy also became very good at driving over or around stray sauce bottles or lemons when driving into the garage.

All went well until the very ancient pair of steps we had been using collapsed; then we had to make do with one very old stool. The walls of the pantry looked very nice white-washed until I slipped while painting the shelves and knocked blue paint over the wall. We now have a very modern pantry with three white walls and one blue. I think I shall leave the decorating to mother during term-time.

KAREN DAY (III_A).

MATHS

Racking brains, worried eyes.
Tapping pencils, long sighs.
III_A's maths exercise
Is underway.

Restlessness, hard looks.
Bits of paper, smudged books,
Splashing of ink, like ducks,
Nearly over.

Ten more minutes, not long.
Look better, happy throng.
Feel good, sing a song.
There's the bell.

Packing books, mad rush.
Here's teacher, shush, shush,
Now he's gone. "Go on, push"
It's hometime.

MARY BOTT (III_A).

A WINTER'S NIGHT

The hoar frost glistens on the lacy boughs,
 The moon shines down upon the shapes of cows.
 The owl calls softly as he passes by,
 A thousand stars shine from a deep blue sky.
 A field mouse hurries to his cosy nest,
 The sun has long departed from the west,
 The night has come and our work will cease.
 The lights go out and all around is peace.

 GLENIS BETTS (IIIa).
THE ANGLER

He sits all alone on the bank of the river,
 And watches and waits for his bright float to quiver,
 And when at last he catches a fish,
 Which is every angler's wish,
 He unhooks it and into his keep-net it goes,
 And his baited hook again into the river he throws.

 JOSEPHINE BAKER (IIIb).
A GOLDFISH AND A COCONUT

When I went to the mop this year I won two of the prizes always shown on the stalls: a goldfish and a coconut. I was greatly surprised because I do not usually win even one prize in one night.

The coconut was first to come into my possession. I was just "having a go" at one of the stalls, not trying to win anything as I do not like coconut, and I won, for the first, and perhaps the last, time, a coconut.

I won Alfred the goldfish by throwing balls into goldfish bowls. I did not intend to win a prize because I did not think I would win a bowl and I had no other suitable home for it but, as you already know, I won Alfred.

Since then, the inside of the coconut has been eaten, leaving the outside to be kicked about until it is hung up for a bird's nest. Alfred has become outwardly contented among plants and sand in his unusual home, a large glass butter churn.

 PATRICIA BULLOCK (IIa).
NIGHT

Night is a silent and sinister thing,
 With few birds singing and less on the wing.
 The Nightjar rhythmically whirrs,
 While the contented cat on the hearthrug purrs.
 Night falls suddenly all noises to drown,
 Like a black sound-proof curtain falling all round,
 At midnight the shadows we imagine to move,
 Aided by that natural streetlamp, the moon.

 R. S. WATTS (IIb).
THE WOODS AT NIGHT

As the moon rose above the trees, the wood came to life. An owl hooted in the distance and a large rat ran across the mossy path. A movement of the earth gave away the presence of a mole, digging another passage in his home. The hoots sounded again and, on the path

through the trees lit by the moon's light, was the shadow of the owl, wings outstretched. It swooped down and carried off an unwary mouse to its nest.

The twitter of the night birds came from the bramble bushes, accompanied by the harsh croaking of the frogs in the pond at the edge of the wood.

The rustle of the bushes betrayed the presence of the old grey badger, returning from his nightly jaunt. Bats swooped this way and that above the trees, hunting for food.

All the sounds grew fainter as dawn's rosy colours streaked the sky and, as the day broke, the nocturnal revels ceased.

ANN RAMWELL (IIA).

WIMBLEDON

I saw the tennis champions play,
And hoped I'd do the same one day.
In tennis shoes and shorts so slick,
The players are so very quick.

Backwards and forwards the ball flies about,
Until one of the players hits it out.
The server starts the game once more,
Fifteen love is now the score.

Now the players have finished a set,
And pass each other at the net.
A quick rub down and a nice cool drink,
"This is what we need," they think.

It's now match point at the server's end.
Her title she must now defend.
A lovely shot, "Hurray" the crowd cries.
As she walks forward to receive her prize.

LINDSAY MORRISON (IIB).

HOLIDAYS

On Sunday I went to a circus,
And saw two giraffes and a bear,
On Monday I went for a picnic,
On Tuesday I went to a fair,
On Wednesday I went to the pictures,
And saw "The cavern of gold,"
On Thursday I visited granny,
On Friday I caught a bad cold,
On Saturday I had to stay in my bed,
Because of the dreadful cold in my head,
Which stayed with me still until Sunday night,
But on Monday for school I was feeling all right.

CHERRY STRASSER (IA).

THE SWANS

I love to hear the beat of wings,
Of swan's flight overhead;
I have an urge to go with them,
O'er the hills and by the stead.

Oh for wings that I could fly,
Up in the heavens across the sky;
I'd fly with the birds so white and fair,
Up in the blue and through the air.

MARILYN HALL (IB).

OLD SCHOLARS' GUILD

Summer Reunion, 1959

The Summer Reunion was held at the School on Saturday, July 11th, by kind permission of the Governors and the Headmaster.

In the afternoon a tennis tournament was organised by T. Savage and was enjoyed by those who took part, tea was served by Mrs. Rutter and her staff, who also served dinner in the evening.

The President, Miss Jean Young, welcomed J. B. Shewell, Esq., chairman of the Governors, Mr. and Mrs. Davison, Mr. and Mrs. Druller, Mr. E. S. Walker, a former member of the staff, Mrs. Walker and 120 others, including Governors, members of the Staff, Old Scholars, with husbands and wives.

After the meal the toast to V. V. Druller was proposed by P. E. Wheeler. The President presented Mr. Druller with a refrigerator and a portable radio, which had been subscribed to by several hundred Old Scholars. Mr. Druller suitably replied.

J. B. Shewell, Esq., presented Mr. Druller with an anglepoise lamp on behalf of the Governors.

Mr. Druller thanked Mr. Shewell and then proposed a toast to the School and the Guild. The President replied.

The company then moved to the hall, where the Moonrakers' Band played for dancing. During a break in the dancing, the President, on behalf of the Guild, presented Miss M. A. Evans with a travelling clock to mark her retirement. Table tennis was available throughout the evening and a quiet lounge was provided for those who wished to sit and talk of old times.

Dancing continued until midnight and ended with Auld Lang Syne, the Queen and the Grand Good Night.

Autumn Dance

A dance was held at Great Alne on Friday, September 25th. This event was a social success, but unfortunately it was not supported well enough and there was a loss of about £2.

Dinner Dance

The Second Annual Dinner Dance was held at Ettington Park Hotel on Wednesday, October 28th. Although the numbers were small the evening was very successful and was enjoyed by all who attended. At the conclusion of the dinner the toast to the School and the Guild was proposed by Mr. Harper, of Studley School, Miss Jean Young replied.

Music was by Stan Wyton.

Christmas Reunion

The Christmas Reunion will be held at the School on Saturday, December 19th, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Admission 4/6 inclusive of buffet. Old Scholars are reminded that at present attendance at reunions is restricted to Old Scholars, husbands and wives.

The proposition that fiancées and fiancés be admitted will be discussed at this reunion. It is most important that as many as possible attend for the business meeting.

There are vacancies on the committee particularly for the Bidford and Stratford area. It is essential to have representatives in these areas if the Guild is to maintain contact with a large number of Old Scholars.

Sports News

The Old Scholars v. the School soccer match was played on October 3rd. The O.S. were represented by B. McCarthy, A. Turner, M. Malin, R. Harris, D. Wilshaw, M. Bailey, D. Jones, D. Chambers and T. Savage. The referee was P. Dale and the match ended in victory for the O.S. by four goals to three. The game was very enjoyable and the Old Scholars are certainly looking forward to the next match.

Old Scholars wishing to participate in sporting activities should contact the following :—

Soccer—Mr. T. Savage, Homestead, Evesham Road, Astwood Bank.

Hockey—Mr. P. G. Drew, Alcester 2368.

Rugby—Mr. H. Silva, Keeble, Seggs Lane, Alcester.

The newly-formed School Badminton Club would like to play the Old Scholars, if a match can be arranged.

Mr. H. Silva, the School Sports Master, appeals to Old Scholars for any unwanted sports equipment, including soccer shirts and socks, which could be sold to raise money for the Sports Fund.

Ties, Scarves and Badges are available from Mrs. Feast, The Swan, High Street, Studley.

The Secretary will be pleased to receive suggestions and to give information.

Hon. Secretary:

C. H. Strain,
112, Hertford Road,
Alcester

President:

Miss Jean Young,
88, Acacia Road,
Leamington Spa.

OLD SCHOLARS' NEWS

E. J. Cassell has obtained his Merchant Navy Master's certificate. He has recently been appointed first officer on s.s. Colonial.

* * * *

Anne Edwards is now a State Certified Midwife.

* * * *

University successes this summer include : A. Swinglehurst, 2nd Class Hons. B.A. in English at Manchester. J. Rawbone, 1st Class Hons. B.Sc. in General Science at Leicester. V. Baseley. B.A. at Bangor.

* * * *

M. J. Rouse has been awarded a Tennis Blue at Birmingham University.

* * * *

We are sorry to record the death at the age of 19 of Mrs. Jackson, of Welford-on-Avon (née Patricia Bott).

* * * *

Graham G. Downie (1952-57) passed the Ministry of Education Intermediate Examination at Birmingham College of Art and Crafts.

BIRTHS

- On April 16th, to Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Collins (née Patricia Brookes)—a son.
On July 21st, to Mr. and Mrs. B. Waters (née Enid Bennett)—a daughter.
On July 24th, to Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Green (née Rosemary Sharpe)—a son.
On August 16th, to Mr. and Mrs. B. Hunt—a daughter.
On October 5th, to Mr. and Mrs. B. Watton—a son.
On October 7th, to Mr. and Mrs. P. Baker (née Ann Perkins)—a son.
On July 10th, to Mr. and Mrs. P. Norden, in Singapore—a son.

MARRIAGES

- On March 30th, at Upholland (near Wigan), Robert P. McCarthy (scholar 1944-50) to Margaret Jean Smith.
On June 27th, at Stratford-on-Avon, Allan John Stuart-Buchanan to June Patricia Chatwin (scholar 1938-42).
On July 25th, at Studley, John Teasdale to Rosina Margaret Dyer (scholar 1948-53).
On July 25th, at Temple Grafton, Rowland John Leonard Waters to Sally Patricia Hunt (scholar 1949-56).
On July 25th, at Bidford-on-Avon, William Clive Oseland (scholar 1949-56) to Valerie Joan Mills.
On August 8th, at Arrow, Robin Henry Lawrence to Jill Bunting (scholar 1948-54).
On August 8th, at Alveston, Robert David White to Pauline Frances Davis (scholar 1951-56).
On August 8th, at Henley-in-Arden, Leslie George Goodman (scholar 1947-52) to Carsina Ann Phillis.
On August 8th, at Wootton Wawen, Eric Francis Keyte to Betty Megan Phillips (scholar 1947-52).
On September 5th, at Shotton, John Alfred Edward King to Jayne Anne Edwards (scholar 1947-51).
On September 5th, at Wootton Wawen, Peter Lane (scholar 1947-53) to Frances Jean Gould.
On September 12th, at Henfield, Anthony Edward Bryan (scholar 1944-49) to Gillian Ann White.
On September 19th, at Bidford-on-Avon, Brian Baker to Victoria Dorothy Anne Allen (scholar 1947-52).
On September 19th, at Aston Cantlow, Philip Edward Mander to Margaret Anne Woodfield (scholar 1947-52).
On September 26th, at Flyford Flavel, Basil Derrick Cottrill (scholar 1948-53) to Janet Heather Chambers.
On October 10th, at Stratford-on-Avon, Philip John Stevenson to Barbara Ann Whitehouse (scholar 1950-55).
On October 31st, at Stratford-on-Avon, John Henry Guthrie Daysh to Sheila Florence Bartlett (scholar 1945-50).
On November 5th, at Stratford-on-Avon, Sidney Cole to Joy Parriss (scholar 1945-49).

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